



BROMLEY CIVIC CENTRE, STOCKWELL CLOSE, BROMLEY BRI 3UH

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DATE: 13 October 2009

To: Members of the
STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Martin Sweet (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Anne Manning (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Roger Charsley, Martin Curry, Jennifer Hillier and Peter Hobbins
Mrs Calderbank, Reverend M Camp, Mr Green, Mr Gupta, Mr Hagley, Mrs Hawkes,
Mr Mahmood, Mrs Michaelis, Mr D Morrell, Mr Riat, Mr Stone, Mr Town,
Ms Tranchina and Reverend S Varney

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education will be held at
Bromley Civic Centre on **WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2009 AT 6.30 PM**

MARK BOWEN
Director of Legal, Democratic and
Customer Services.

*Copies of the documents referred to below can be obtained from
<http://sharepoint.bromley.gov.uk>*

A G E N D A

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 - e NATIONAL FRAMEWORK CONSULTATIONS**
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 - 9 BROMLEY SACRE VISIT TO PICKHURST JUNIOR SCHOOL AUTUMN TERM VISIT DATES (Pages 13 - 14)**
 - 10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
 - 11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TO BE DISCUSSED**

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Agenda Item 3

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 May 2009

Present

Mr Martin Sweet (Chairman) Councillors Roger Charsley, Martin Curry, Stephen Carr , Peter Hobbins, Reverend S Varney, Mr A Green, Mr S Gupta, Ms F Kearns, Mr S Mahmood, Mrs R Michaelis, Mr Riat, Mr J Stone and Mr C Town

Also Present

Ms Penny Smith - Orr

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Hagley, Reverend M Camp, Cllr A Manning (alternate Cllr Carr)

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 February 2009

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2009 be confirmed

Item 4b. Mrs Smith-Orr reported that she would be speaking at the primary heads' meeting in the near future and would be asking for new recruits to fill the SACRE vacancies

Item 5. It was reported that the Bromley exam results comparison with the national average would be available at the next meeting.

Item 6. Mrs Smith-Orr reported that the development plan had been tabled rather than added to the agenda as it sets out the agenda for future meetings.

Item 10. Dates of next meetings, It was resolved that in future there would be 3 SACRE meetings each academic year instead of each municipal year.

4 ORAL UPDATE and PUBLICATIONS

(a) NASACRE – 4 June 2009

The Chairman reported that he would be attending the conference in Birmingham.

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FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
19 May 2009*

(b) London Sacre

Members were asked if they wanted to attend the London SACRE on July 3rd. Mrs Smith-Orr, Cllr Charsley, Ms Kearns and Mr Stone expressed interest.

Members asked questions about the role of London SACRE in relation to setting the framework and provision for the statutory syllabus for Bromley schools. It was generally felt that the work of the local SACREs was very effective in terms of setting out guidance for implementing the curriculum and monitoring the role of each SACRE.

(c) RE consultant update

The RE advisor updated on the following main activities :

that she had organised a visit to Redhill School, had attended a primary network meeting, visited the RE centre at Bishop Justus for 'RE New to You', helped organise a Hindu event in Royston School and had discussions with Gillian Pearson on funding an interfaith week event.

Also she had been working on the Faith Directory, the Westhill bid, the primary curriculum review and the revision of circular 1/94.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Smith-Orr for her hard work.

(d) Islamic competition

Mr Mahmood explained that although this competition had been run for about 10 years only 3 schools were currently involved. Members agreed that the competition was an inspirational event for those schools taking part and that it was important to publicise the event more. The presentation date was 6th November.

**5 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL SACRE EVENT 2009
Report No DCYPO9071**

The RE advisor reported that the annual event will take place on 21 October 2009 at the Bromley EDC. It will take the form of a sixth form conference including a film presentation, and is designed to be a response to the need for interfaith work in Bromley. Members, especially teacher members, were asked to publicise the event and to ask for assistance on the day. Members discussed the idea of forming a youth SACRE in the future.

**6 FAITH DIRECTORY
Report No DCYP0P072**

The Chairman reported that he had written to 'Churches together'..... regarding the need to put information together for a faith directory of people who would speak at collective worship or during RE lessons. Some schools have also requested information on visits to places of worship. Members of committee A and B were asked to meet as a working group in July and to provide information on places of worship in Bromley and lists of people they know who would be willing to speak to school pupils about aspects of their faith.

RESOLVED that a meeting be set up in July

**7 INTERFAITH WEEK
Report No DCYPO9070**

The Re consultant reported that a national interfaith week is planned for the week beginning 15 November and funding would be available for each authority. The launch of the interfaith directory could take place during that week and any other ideas should be put to the Chairman by the next meeting.

RESOLVED that the information be noted

**8 SCHOOLS VISITS
Report DCYP09069**

Bromley SACRE had a policy of visiting two schools per term in order for the members to acquaint themselves with arrangements for collective worship and the teaching of religious education in Bromley schools. Due to the change in reports received from OfSTED these visits had taken on a greater importance in order for the Committee to gain information about schools. The visits also have an important role in offering support from SACRE to the schools on the organisation and delivery of Collective Worship and Religious Education.

The RE Advisor circulated copies of a report on the visits to Biggin Hill and Red Hill Primary Schools. Members who had attended the school visits reported back on both visits favourably.

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19 May 2009*

Summer term visits to Pickhurst Junior and James Dixon School will take place in June and July.

RESOLVED that the report be agreed and that the dates of the school visits be noted.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Response to consultation

The Chairman asked members for responses to the National Framework consultation by email by 10 July if possible.

10 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

6.30pm on Wednesday 21 October 2009 and Thursday 11 February 2010 at the Civic Centre.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm

Chairman

Report No.
DCYP09151

London Borough of Bromley

Agenda
Item No. **5b**

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Standard Advisory Committee for Religious Education**

Date: **21 October 2009**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

TITLE: WITHDRAWAL OF PUPILS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Contact Officer: Penny Smith-Orr, RE Adviser
Tel: 020 8653 8606 Email: penny.smith-orr@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Gillian Pearson, Director of Children and Young People Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 The current legislation on Religious Education and Collective Worship says that parents have the right to withdraw their children on grounds of religious conscience.
- 1.2 The revision of Circular 1/94 does not include any changes in collective worship and still allows parents the right of withdrawal as there is no planned change to the law.
- 1.3 Requests have been received from schools as to what their responsibility is when a child is withdrawn.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **Members are requested to discuss this issue and make a decision on the advice for schools and parents regarding care of withdrawn pupils.**

Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Revision of Circular 1/94 Document
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Report No.
DCYP09150

London Borough of Bromley

Agenda
Item No. **6**

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Standard Advisory Committee for Religious Education**

Date: **21 October 2009**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

TITLE: UPDATE ON SELF-EVALUATION OF BROMLEY SACRE

Contact Officer: Penny Smith-Orr, RE Adviser
Tel: 020 8653 8606 Email: penny.smith-orr@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Gillian Pearson, Director of Children and Young People Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 During the Autumn meeting of 2008 the committees took some time to look through the self-evaluation of SACRE document and make decisions as to whether Bromley SACRE was developing, established or advanced in each of the categories.
 - 1.2 There were three categories which we decided needed developing. These were 2B, 2F and 5D (see **Appendix 1**).
 - 1.3 The chair will speak at the meeting about the progress we have made with these categories and the continuing development of Bromley SACRE.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **Members to consider the attached sheet and be prepared to discuss progress and ideas for further progress.**

Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	SACRE Self-Evaluation Document
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Bromley SACRE Self-Evaluation Autumn 2008 results

Key Area Number	Key Area	Developing	Established	Advanced
1A	Compliance and time allocation for RE		x	
1B	Public examination entries RE			x
1C	Standards and achievement		x	
1D	Quality of teaching			
1E	Quality of leadership and management			
1F	Recruitment and retention issues		x	
1G	Resources			x
2A	SACRE meetings		x	
2B	Membership and training	x		
2C	Improvement and development planning		x	
2D	Professional and financial support			x
2E	Information and advice		x	
2F	Partnership with our key stakeholders	x		
3A	Review of Agreed Syllabus			x
3B	Using the non statutory National Framework for RE			x
3C	Developing the revised Agreed Syllabus			x
3D	Consultation/launch/implementation of the Agreed syllabus		x	
3E	Additional guidance/ monitoring and evaluating the Agreed syllabus			x
4A	Practice and provision for collective worship			x
4B	Monitoring collective worship/ tackling issues of non compliance			x
5A	Representative nature of SACRE		x	
5B	Knowledge and understanding of the local religious, cultural, ethnic community		x	
5C	Understanding the intrinsic contribution RE can make to social and racial harmony		x	
5D	Links to the LA initiatives promoting social and racial harmony	x		

Report No.
DCYP09149

London Borough of Bromley

Agenda
Item No. **8**

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Standard Advisory Committee for Religious Education**

Date: **21 October 2009**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

TITLE: NATIONAL INTERFAITH WEEK - BROMLEY FAITH DIRECTORY

Contact Officer: Penny Smith-Orr, RE Adviser
Tel: 020 8653 8606 Email: penny.smith-orr@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Gillian Pearson, Director of Children and Young People Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 During the 6 school visits per year SACRE members have been asked for a list of names of people who would speak at collective worship or during RE lessons. Some schools have also asked for information on visits to places of worship.
 - 1.2 The school self evaluation document sent to all schools has a question about support requested from SACRE. The majority of forms returned ask for information on visitors of 'other faiths' who would speak.
 - 1.3 The working party met in July and shared information on speakers and places of worship suitable for schools to visit. Any further information on speakers from the different faiths should be sent to Penny Smith-Orr as soon as possible for inclusion into the directory.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 Members to send details of further possible speakers to Penny Smith-Orr.
- 2.2 Members to consider the best method of distribution for the directory.
- 2.3 Members to discuss the possibility of a SACRE page on the Bromley Website.

Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	School Self-Evaluation Document
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Report No.
DCYP09148

London Borough of Bromley

Agenda
Item No. **9**

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Standard Advisory Committee for Religious Education**

Date: **21 October 2009**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

**TITLE: BROMLEY SACRE VISIT TO PICKHURST JUNIOR SCHOOL -
AUTUMN TERM VISIT DATES**

Contact Officer: Penny Smith-Orr, RE Adviser
Tel: 020 8653 8606 Email: penny.smith-orr@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Gillian Pearson, Director of Children and Young People Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Members of Bromley SACRE visited one school, Pickhurst Junior School during the Summer Term (**Appendix 1**). The arrangements for visiting a second school, James Dixon Primary, were unable to be completed and this will hopefully be a visit in the Spring Term.
- 1.2 During the Autumn Term arrangements have been made to visit Darrick Wood Junior school on Wednesday, 4 November. Arrangements to visit Perry Hall Primary on Wednesday, 2 December 2009 will be confirmed at the meeting.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 Members to read the report of the visit to Pickhurst Junior School.
- 2.2 Members to inform Penny Smith-Orr if they are able to come on the Autumn Term visits.

Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Nil.
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**SACRE VISIT TO PICKHURST JUNIOR SCHOOL
16 JUNE 2009**

This visit was undertaken by Mr Riat, Sikh representative, Mrs Michaelis, Jewish representative and Penny Smith-Orr the RE Consultant.

We were met by Mrs Beardall, the RE co-ordinator and Mr Rampton the Head Teacher. The school is a large Junior school of approximately 450 pupils and has very nice grounds. Unusually for a primary school there is a head boy and head girl at the school and they took us on a tour of the premises and talked to us about their school showing obvious pride.

We had a discussion with Mrs Beardall and the Head Teacher about the Bromley syllabus, which they are quite pleased with. Mrs Beardall monitors the planning and where lessons are undertaken by classroom assistants ensures that they are able to plan. One of the classroom assistants had attended a course on teaching festivals at the EDC and had passed on the information on her return. We also talked about visits to places of worship and gave some suggestions. Mr Riat was keen to discuss the introduction of a Sikh festival and invited Mrs Beardall to the Sikh place of worship in Bromley.

The school have introduced 'Philosophy 4 children' in the last year to good effect. Although this doesn't absolutely focus on RE, it is helpful in getting pupils to think about 'ultimate questions'. We also briefly discussed the forthcoming Interfaith week and the possibility that the school might put up a display during that week.

We went to see a Year 5 lesson, taken by Mrs Stevens, which focussed on Judaism. The class looked at part of the RE Quest DVD, sent to all schools by Bromley SACRE, and found out about the inside of a Synagogue. Mrs Michaelis was pleased to join in with the discussions. The pupils were all engaged with the lesson and keen to join in.

The collective worship on the day of our visit was led by Mr Jeffries and was the story of the Selfish Giant and the point was that stories should inspire us. Although some of the pupils got a bit restless during the story, they listened well to the prayer which was from the Christian tradition and were invited to say Amen if they agreed with the sentiment.

We were very pleased with the welcome we received and were impressed with the independence of the pupils and the wide horizons and view of life that they are encouraged to adopt.

Penny Smith-Orr